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In the fullness of its glory, last June. Now four years old and growing more beautiful every season.

## THE FASCINATING HOBBY OF ROCK GARDENING

*I*N EVERY gardener's experience there comes a time when a subtle change within creates a degree of discontent with the common run of garden pleasures. All flowers are beautiful, all roses are of delightful fragrance—in short there seems to develop a longing for something different.

Properly analyzed this longing is simply the inherent desire to get below the surface of things, to get to know some plants more intimately, to cultivate them and to develop something of which you will be proud. When that time arrives in your gardening endeavors, then you are ready for a Rock Garden.

The Bay State Nurseries, North Abington, Mass.

W. H. Wyman & Son, Owners.



# The Principal Components

THE chief virtue of a Rockery is that it fits mostly anywhere, even in smallest space. Any kind of rocks (except round boulders) will serve. The nature of alpine plants is such that they are easily satisfied in most any soil, rich soil proving often a detriment rather than an advantage. There is just one factor that is of paramount importance in rock garden making and that is *drainage*.

**Drainage** Fortunately that problem is most easily solved with the help of ashes and cinders. A good-sized heap of ashes formed the basis for the rock garden here illustrated. It is essential that the rockery be raised above the surrounding ground, be the elevation ever so trifling.

Your rock garden may be located anywhere so long as it is not beneath great shade trees. Some shade during the afternoon will prove beneficial but most rock garden plants are sun-loving creatures and enjoy full exposure.



The start, showing the irregular shape and stepping stones; four years ago.



A close-up of the identical view below two years later.

**The Ideal Rocks** Of course the ideal rocks are those representing natural outcroppings of rocks found in your section. But where such are not available collected rocks will do, but do avoid round boulders! The reason for this is that they will not retain the soil around them. It will gradually wash away, leaving the roots of plants exposed, which means their end. Where natural rocks of irregular shape are not available, Tufa, a limestone mined in Ohio, will furnish a most acceptable substitute.

**The Physical Boundary** In outlining the physical boundary of the rockery, avoid regularity.

Place all rocks in as varied a fashion as possible, but always at an inward slant, so that rains afford the plants the maximum benefit. All rocks disposed at random about and over the rockery should be buried to at least one half their size. If buried too shallow they will neither afford a solid

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You may gather the impression from this sheet that we are Rock Garden Specialists. Such is not the case however. We specialize in no one thing but endeavor to maintain a complete list of evergreens, trees, shrubs, vines and perennials. Send for our price list and *Descriptive Hand Book*.

footing (needed to combat weeds) nor give the plants secure anchorage. That, incidentally, is perhaps the chief mission of the rocks in the rock garden. Nearly all alpine plants love moisture at their prodigiously spreading roots and that they find under the rocks! In the rockery of even modest dimensions (the one illustrated measures 12' x 20') a series of stepping stones is highly desirable. These should be placed as the rocks are located, in such fashion as to make every square yard accessible with the hand weeder.

**Now as to Soil** Experience teaches that the average garden soil is entirely too heavy (and too rich) to afford congenial existence to plants accustomed to live on a bare margin of plant food. An ideal mixture to be worked in to a depth of 6 to 8 inches between and partly beneath the rocks consists of equal parts of sand, sifted ashes, leaf mould and garden soil. Humus or decomposed cow manure may serve in place of leaf mould. Never use horse manure, while the use of commercial, highly concentrated fertilizers should be absolutely taboo! A semi-annual application of bone meal, however, will greatly benefit all plants.

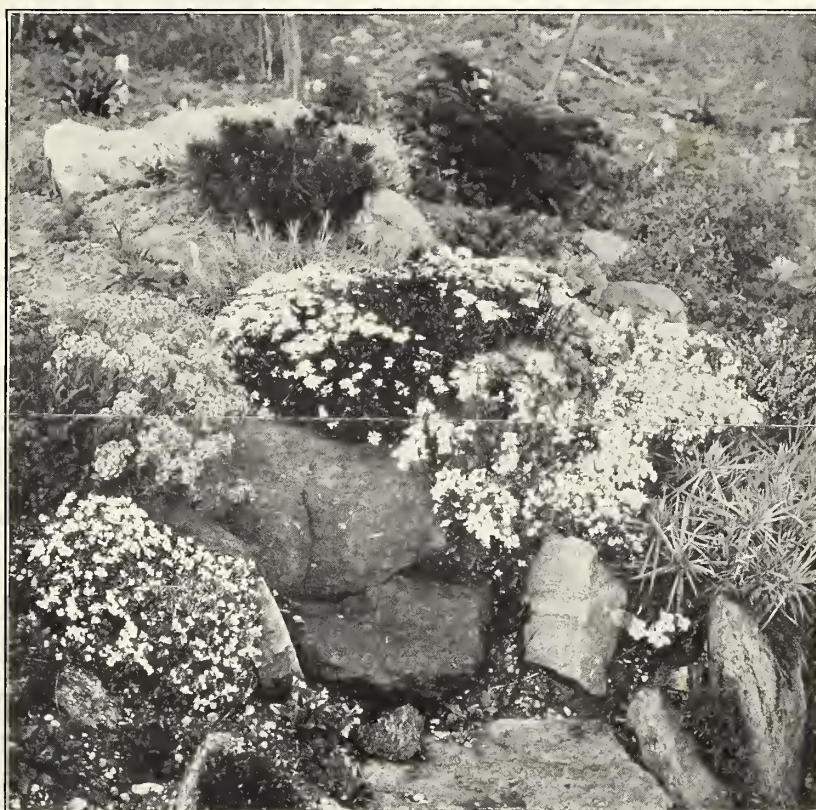
**Which Plants?** Situation, size, shape, rocks, drainage, soil, etc., all being disposed of, there remains the question "Which plants?" On the next page the interested reader will find a list of plants which, because of their habit of growth and other characteristics, lend themselves ideally to transforming dismal looking piles of rocks into veritable fairylands. The interesting Sedums, the brilliant Rock-cress, the Sempervivums, with their always overflowing cradles of "Hens and Chickens" — these are some of the curious forms of plant life that will fill the void referred to in the introductory paragraph. Such plants as are marked with an asterisk (\*) should

be used with discretion and only in the larger rock gardens. Their spreading power is immense. A single sprig of Phlox subulata, either variety, will densely carpet a square yard in 2 years time. Sedum stoloniferum and Sedum sarmentosum will crowd out everything else in very few years. A judicious weeding out of the too rampant growers is constantly in order in the well-regulated rockery, which is bound to become a source of perpetual delights.

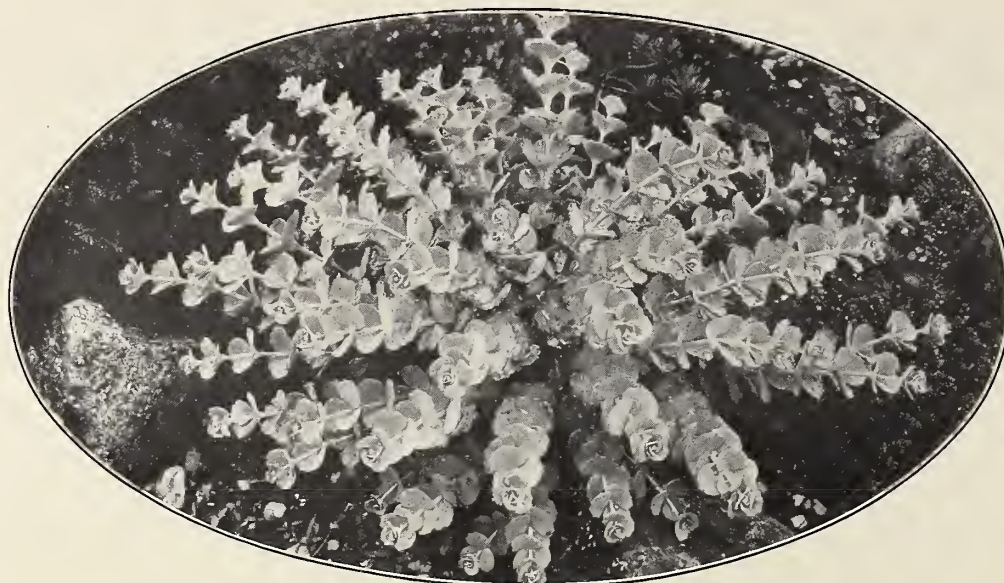
Remember that we have a large list of nursery stock. Let us serve you if you need

EVERGREENS	HEDGES	SHADE TREES
FLOWERING SHRUBS	VINES	RHODODENDRONS
PERENNIALS	ROSES	FRUIT TREES

*We invite you to visit our nurseries and see the character of the stock we grow. Most of our plants are field grown, a few are handled in pots.*



Alyssum Saxatile, Arabis alpina, Aubrietia purpurea, all disposed among the stepping stones. Very colorful in the early spring.



*Sedum sieboldi* — the rarest of them all.

## List of Hardy Perennials particularly adapted for the Rock Garden

Note. 5 or more of one variety are entitled to the 10 rate.

	EACH	PER 10		PAGE	PER 10		EACH	PER 10
<i>Achillea tomentosa</i> , Wolly Yarrow	\$.25	\$2.20	<i>Dianthus Carmen</i> , Light pink, fragrant	\$.30	\$2.40	<i>Primula veris</i> , Cowslip Primrose (upright)	\$.30	\$2.40
<i>Adiantum pedatum</i> , Maidenhair Fern	.30	2.40	* <i>Dianthus deltoides</i> , Maiden pink	.25	2.20	<i>Saxifraga Cordifolia</i> , Heartleaf Saxifrage	.35	3.00
<i>Ajuga reptans rubra</i> , Purpleleaf Bugle	.30	2.40	* <i>Dianthus plumarius</i> , Grass pink	.25	2.20	<i>Saxifraga Crassifolia</i> , Leather Saxifrage	.30	2.50
<i>Alyssum saxatile compactum</i> , Dwarf Goldentuft	.25	2.20	<i>Dicentra eximia</i> , Fringed Bleeding Heart	.30	2.40	<i>Sedum acre</i> , Goldmoss	.30	2.40
<i>Aquilegia caerulea</i> , Colorado Columbine	.30	2.40	<i>Gypsophila repens</i> , Creeping Gypsophila	.30	2.40	<i>Sedum sieboldi</i> , Siebold Stonecrop	.30	2.40
<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i> , American Columbine	.25	2.20	* <i>Helianthemum chamaecistus</i> , Common Sunrose	.30	2.40	<i>Sedum spectabile</i>	.25	2.20
<i>Arabis alpina</i> , Alpine Rockcress	.20	2.20	* <i>Helianthemum c. tomentosum</i> , Rosemary Sunrose	.30	2.40	* <i>Sedum stoloniferum</i> , Running Stonecrop	.30	2.40
<i>Armeria laevis</i> , Sea Pink	.25	2.20	<i>Heuchera Shirley</i> , Coralbells	.30	2.40	<i>Sempervivum Arachnoideum</i> , Spiderweb Houseleek	.25	2.20
<i>Aster alpinus</i> , Rock Aster	.25	2.20	<i>Iberis Little Gem</i>	.30	2.40	<i>Sempervivum tectorum</i> , Roof Houseleek	.25	2.20
<i>Aubrietia deltoidea purpurea</i> , Purple Lady	.30	2.40	<i>Iberis sempervirens</i> , Evergreen Candytuft	.30	2.40	* <i>Tunica saxifraga</i> , Saxifrage Tunicflower	.30	2.40
<i>Calluna nana</i> , Moss Heather	.75	7.00	<i>Iris cristata</i> , Crested Iris	.30	2.40	<i>Veronica repens</i> , Creeping Speedwell	.30	2.50
<i>Campanula carpatica</i> , Carpathian Bellflower	.30	2.40	<i>Iris cyanea</i> (Deep Blue)	.30	2.50	<i>Veronica teucrium rupestris</i> , Rock Speedwell	.30	2.50
<i>Centaurea montana</i> , Montana-bluet	.25	2.20	<i>Limonium latifolium</i> , Bigleaf Sea-lavender	.30	2.40	<i>Viola G. Wermig</i>	.30	2.40
<i>Cerastium biebersteini</i> , Taurus Cerastium	.30	2.50	<i>Lychnis viscaria fl. pl.</i> , Double Rosepink Champion	.30	2.40	<i>Yucca filamentosa</i> , Common Yucca, 3 vrs.	.30	2.50
<i>Chrysanthemum arcticum</i> , Arctic Chrysanthemum	.30	2.40	<i>Mertensia Virginica</i> , Virginia Bluebells	.30	2.40			
			<i>Oenothera missouriensis</i> , Ozark Sundrops	.30	2.40			
			<i>Opuntia missouriensis</i>	.30	2.40			
			<i>Pachysandra terminalis</i> , Japanese Pachysandra (3 in. pots)	.30	2.40			
			<i>Papaver nudicaule</i> , Iceland Poppy, orange, white and yellow	.30	2.40			
			<i>Phlox amoena</i>	.30	2.40			
			* <i>Phlox subulata</i> , Moss pink	.25	2.20			
			* <i>Phlox subulata alba</i> , White Moss Pink	.25	2.20			
			<i>Phlox subulata G. F. Wilson</i>	.25	2.20			
			* <i>Phlox subulata lilacina</i>	.25	2.20			
			<i>Phlox subulata Nelsoni</i>	.25	2.20			
			<i>Phlox subulata Vivid</i>	.30	2.40			



*Sempervivum tectorum*, the largest of the species.



*Sedum acre* — "mothering" a *Sempervivum* or Houseleek.

The prices listed above are for the plants at the nursery or express office, North Abington, Mass. There is no charge for packing on retail orders. If you are interested in a large quantity of any particular varieties refer to our price list or let us quote on your requirements.